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PATENT 1377-0156P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: MCCARTHY et al.

Conf.:

3757

Appl. No.:

09/673,739

Group:

1656

Filed:

October 20, 2000 Examiner: J. Tung

For:

A METHOD FOR THE CHARACTERIZATION OF ACID MOLECULES NUCLEIC INVOLVING GENERATION OF EXTENDIBLE UPSTREAM DNA FRAGMENTS RESULTING FROM THE CLEAVAGE OF

NUCLEIC ACID AT AN ABASIC SITE

RESPONSE WITH RCE APPLICATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

July 2, 2003

Sir:

The following remarks are respectfully submitted with the concurrent filing of a Request for Continued Prosecution and in response to the Office Action dated February 8, 2002, and Advisory Action issued May 21, 2003, the due date having been reset by the Office of Petitions to February 2, 2003 and extended for five(5) months to July 2, 3003, in connection with the above-identified application.